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(*b*) how many of them have been repaired during the year 1953–54 up to date and the amount spent; and

(*c*) how many of them are yet to be repaired?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) 86 tanks.

" (*b*) 14 tanks and Rs. 56,800.

" (*c*) 25 tanks."

First aid certificates to drivers and conductors.

* 647 *Q*.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the drivers and conductors of the Government Transport have to obtain first aid certificates before 1st January 1954;

(*b*) who is the authority competent to issue certificates;

(*c*) the facilities given to the workers for obtaining the certificates;

(*d*) what will happen to the workers who do not possess first aid certificates on 1st January 1954; and

(*e*) whether the Government are considering any postponement of this date?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) The drivers and conductors of public service vehicles, including those employed in the Government Transport have to obtain First Aid Certificates before 1st July 1954;

" (*b*) The St. John Ambulance Association (India);

" (*c*) The Director of Medical Services, Madras, has been instructed to afford the necessary facilities in consultation with the Honorary Secretary, St. John Ambulance Association to enable the drivers and conductors in this State to obtain First Aid Certificates before the prescribed date. Particulars regarding the training classes, availability of training facilities, etc., in the mufassal have been given wide publicity.

" As regards employees in the Government Transport, First Aid Training classes are conducted departmentally for drivers and conductors of the State Transport with the co-operation of the Honorary Secretary, St. John Ambulance Association, St. Thomas Mount Centre;

" (*d*) The drivers and conductors who fail to produce an Adult First Aid Certificate before the prescribed date are liable to be declared disqualified for holding a licence to drive a public service vehicle or to work as a conductor, as the case may be;

" (*e*) The time has since been extended up to 30th June 1954."

MR. SPEAKER :—" This question has come up previously also."

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SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" The conductors and drivers are put to much difficulty in getting the necessary training to obtain these certificates. In some places the workers have to bear the expense of this training themselves. So, as far as the rural parts are concerned, will the Hon. Minister instruct the medical officers in charge of Government hospitals to arrange for giving this training to these conductors and drivers without charging any fees? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Out of 792 drivers 763 have passed and obtained certificates. Out of 774 conductors 685 have obtained certificates. Adequate facilities are given to them to get these certificates."

SRI A. GOVINDASAMI NAYAGAR :—" ஏற்கெனவே இது சம்பந்தமாக முன்பு கேட்ட கேள்விக்கு அந்த முதற்சிகிச்சை பெட்டி First-Aid Box மருந்து இல்லாமல் காலியாக இருப்பதாக ஏற்கெனவே இருந்த மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். இப்பொழுதாவது அந்த முதற்சிகிச்சை பெட்டிகளில் மருந்துகள் வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின்றனவா என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The Government will see that first aid boxes are provided in such of those buses where they are not available."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In the absence of any medicine in the empty boxes that are fitted in the Government Transport buses in Madras City, what will be the usefu or utilitarian purpose served by insisting upon the conductors and drivers to pass this test within a prescribed period, when the Government have not done their duty properly? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not know whether the hon. Member inspected all the buses. I do not know how he could make a general statement with regard to this matter. I give the House this assurance that before 1st July 1954 every bus will be provided with the necessary first aid box."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" By way of personal explanation, I want to submit that I am one of those few Members of this House who use this bus as their means of conveyance. I have never travelled in a car as the Hon. Minister does. I have inspected almost all the buses in the City of Madras and not one bus has got anything connected with the first aid facility except the box and the name on it."

X-ray plants in Government hospitals.

* 648 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of X-ray plants installed in the Government hospitals of the State; and

(*b*) the minimum cost of an X-ray plant?